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MINUTES

OF THE UNITARY OF THE DEG 6 - 1937
UNIVERSITY OF ILLIMOIS

Providence Annual Conference

SELLI AS OFFICE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD AT BRISTOL, R. I.,

APRIL 1, 1857.

PUBLISHED ANNUALLY BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE.

BOSTON: JAMES P. MAGEE, 5 CORNHILL. 1857.



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Geo. C. Rand & Avery, Printers, 3 Cornhill, Boston.

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ABSTRACT

OF THE

Journal of the Providence Annual Conference.

THE Seventeenth Annual Session of the PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE was opened in the M. E. Church, Bristol, R. I., at 9 o'clock, A. M., Wednesday, April 1, 1857, Bishop Janes presiding.

After appropriate opening services by the Bishop, he was assisted in the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, by the following brethren: Fillmore, Upham, Stoddard, Townsend, Coggeshall, and Bradford.

Rev. A. Palmer, our Secretary of last year, called the roll, when seventy-four members answered to their names.

Brother Palmer was re-elected Secretary, with Rev. J. B. Gould for Assistant.

It was voted that the daily session of Conference, be—opening at $8\frac{1}{2}$ A. M., and adjournment at 12 M.

Rev. A. McKeown—the Pastor of the Church in this place—was appointed a Committee to superintend Public Worship.

A. U. Swinerton, M. J. Talbot, J. W. Case, J. D. Butler, B. Otheman, and J. E. Gifford were appointed a Committee to nominate the usual Conference Committees.

The same Committees as last year—with the exception of that on Memoirs—were ordered.

The Secretaries were instructed to govern themselves by the report of last General Conference, in keeping the journal.

Took up the 2d question of Discipline, "Who remain on trial?" The following brethren, having passed a satisfactory examination, were continued on trial: J. N. Collier, Robert Parsons, and B. K. Bosworth. Wm. E. Sheldon did not present himself for examination. He was continued on trial.

The 3d question was taken up: "Who are the deacons?" Orlando N. Brooks, J. W. Willett, J. A. M. Chapman, and L. E. Dunham had all passed a satisfactory examination. Their character also passed before Conference. Sickness prevented J. T. Benton appearing for examination. His character passed.

A communication was read from H. W. Smith, requesting to withdraw from the M. E. Church. Conference voting to grant his request, his parchments were returned.

5th Question taken up: "Who have been elected elders?" When Charles Hammond's name was called, some discussion arising upon the relation he sustains to Conference, a motion to lay his case on the table prevailing, the Nominating Committee were called upon to make their Report, when they gave the following, which was adopted.

ON NECESSITOUS CASES.—J. D. Butler, B. Otheman, J. W. Case, F. Upham, E. Benton, J. Cady, G. M. Carpenter, J. E. Gifford, A. Gardner

STEWARDS.—E. Benton, A. Gardner, J. Cady.

Missions.—C. H. Titus, P. Townsend, L. W. Blood.

EDUCATION.—D. Patten, C. S. Sanford, H. Baylies, W. Livesey, E. H. Hatfield, G. W. Quereau, Preston Bennet.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—N. Bemis, J. W. Willett, G. W. Brewster.

Publishing the Minutes.—R. Donkersley, J. P. Magee.

PREACHERS' AID SOCIETY.—Preston Bennet.

TRACT SOCIETY.—J. Mather, T. B. Gurney, H. H. Smith, J. Howson, L. D. Bentley.

TEMPERANCE.—S. W. Coggeshall, A. N. Bodfish, E. B. Bradford, L. Harlow, F. Gavitt, J. D. King, C. Hammond.

SLAVERY.—S. C. Brown, H. C. Atwater, Wm. Kellen, J. Cooper, F. A. Loomis.

TO NOMINATE PREACHERS FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.—M. J. Talbot, P. T. Kenney, George Burnham.

Post Offices.—B. L. Sayer, P. S. Mather.

STATISTICS.—C. Nason, J. F. Sheffield, J. E. Gifford.

AM. BIBLE SOCIETY.—T. Ely, M. P. Alderman, H. S. White, J. Livesey, Jr., C. Morse.

CAUSE OF SEAMEN.—G. C. Bancroft, W. H. Stetson, B. C. Phelps. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.—S. W. Coggeshall, A. M. Allen, E. A. Lyon, W. Leonard, J. M. Worcester.

After prayer by E. Benton,

Adjourned.

P.M.—A Sermon was preached by L. W. Blood. Evening Preaching by Sam'l Fox.

THURSDAY, A. M., April 3.

Devotional Exercises by Br. G. M. Carpenter.

Bp. Baker appeared in Conference this morning, having arrived last evening. Bp. Janes presided.

The Circular of the Sabbath School Union was read and referred to its appropriate Committee.

The Annual Report and Exhibit of the Western Book Concern, was read and placed on file.

Conference being authorized to draw on the Chartered Fund, to the amount of twenty dollars, it was voted to order the draft.

The following brethren were elected to Elders' orders. Asa N. Bodfish, J. C. Allen, and Lewis B. Bates.

The following brethren were continued in the supernumerary relation.— J. Cady, C. S. Hazard, S. Dean, S. Lamberton, E. F. Hinks. E. H. Hatfield was made effective.

The following brethren were continued superannuated:—Asa Kent Lewis Bates, Francis Dane, Moses Fifield, Daniel Fillmore, Ebenezer Blake, Isaac Stoddard, Nathan Paine, Herman Perry, O. C. Robbins, H. S. Ramsdell, C. A. Carter, J. B. Husted, Elihu Grant, G. W. Stearns, D. Dorchester, Ira M. Bidwell, J. C. Goodridge. Lozien Pierce was made effective.

At his own request, Bro. Gould vacated the post of Ass't Sec'y. J. Mather was elected to take his place.

The following brethren, candidates for admission into full connection with Conference, were called to the altar, and went through the customary examination. Edwin S. Stanley, Francis A. Loomis, Chas. A. Merrill, J. H. Cooley.

The Benediction was pronounced, and Conference-Adjourned.

P. M.—The Annual Miss'ry Sermon was preached by Rev. J. Cooper. Eve'g.—The Anniversary of the Conference Miss'ry Society.

FRIDAY, A. M., April 3.

Religious Services by Br. N. Bemis.

E. S. Stanley, F. A. Loomis, and C. A. Merrill, were admitted into full connection, and elected to Deacons' orders.

J. H. Cooley and J. E. Heald were continued on trial.

Rev. Dr. Shepherd of the Congregational, and Rev. Mr. Read of the Baptist Church in this place, and Rev. Messrs. Mattison, Allen, and Porter, of N. York, were introduced to the Conference.

The Report and Exhibit of the Book Concern at New York, and a circular from Dr. Whedon, Editor of the Quarterly Review, were presented and read before Conference. After which Dr. Porter addressed Conference.

The following Local Preachers were elected to Deacons' orders: John F. Fogg, John Holmes, Jabez Pack, Franklin Sears, and C. M. Alvord.

There were admitted on trial the following brethren: George W. Quereau, James M. Carroll, Varnum A. Cooper, Charles H. Payne, W. V. Morrison, John F. Fogg, Jabez Pack, George S. Alexander, and Alanson Latham.

Bishop Janes presented the recommendation of the General Conference to change the second restrictive rule in reference to the ratio of representation. Conference concurred, by 58 to 0.

The Bishop also presented a recommendation from the General Conference, to alter paragraph 3d, in section 2d, part 1st, of Discipline, by adding the words, after the word Superintendency: "but may appoint a Missionary Bishop, or Superintendent, for any of our Foreign Missions, limiting his Episcopal jurisdiction to the same respectively." Adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 4.

Opening religious services by Rev. J. Sanborn, of the New England Conference.

Took up the examination of the character of the effective elders. Bro. P. Townsend, P. E. of the Sandwich District, gave a verbal report of his District, which was spoken of as being in a prosperous condition.

Bro. C. H. Titus verbally reported the Providence District as in a cheeringly prosperous condition.

Bro. Daggett, P. E. of the New London District, sent a communication as to the poor state of his health. Voted, "that the Committee on the New London District be requested to extend an opportunity to the brethren for the expression of sympathy with Bro. Daggett."

The character of all the effective elders passed, without exception. At his own request, N. P. Philbrook was superannuated. By their own request, H. C. Atwater and A. B. Wheeler were made supernumerary. H. W. Houghton, R. McGonegal, J. Macreading, and G. C. Bancroft were located by their own request.

Brothers S. W. Coggeshall and William H. Richards were appointed a Committee on the Irish Mission.

Dr. Patten presented a Report of the Biblical Institute. Referred to the Committee on Education.

After fixing the place for the next Annual Conference, adjourned.

SABBATH, April 5.

Every pulpit in town — the Romish excepted — was supplied by members of our Conference. The services of the day were spoken of in high terms of praise.

Monday, April 6.

Devotional exercises by N. Bemis.

Bro. Bemis presented the following:

Resolved, "That the preachers be requested to hand in the Statistics to the different Committees on the *second* day of our session; and the Presiding Elders be responsible for the Stations supplied."

The Bishops presented the following certificates of ordinations:

"This may certify, that at Bristol, R. I., on the fifth day of April, 1857, Asa N. Bodfish, Josiah C. Allen, Lewis B. Bates, and Caleb M. Alvord, were duly ordained Elders by me, assisted by several Elders.

"OSMAN C. BAKER."

"I hereby certify that Francis A. Loomis, James H. Cooley, Charles A. Merrill, John F. Fogg, John Holmes, Jabez Pack, and Franklin Sears, were by me ordained Deacons in the M. E. Church, Bristol, R. I., April 5, 1857.

EDMUND S. JANES."

The following Committees reported, and their Reports were adopted: Stewards; to arrange Religious Services for next Conference; on Statistics; on the Bequest of the late Walter Giddings to the Superannuated Preachers of this Conference; on the Irish Deputation. Rev. D. Fillmore, agent of the Wesleyan University, made his Report, which was adopted, and the thanks of Conference were presented to our faithful agent for his valuable services.

At the time of adjournment the Report of the Committee on Education was under consideration.

Tuesday, April 7.

Opening Services by Bro. Moses Chase.

Resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Education. The Report was adopted. The Committees on Preachers' Aid, Examination of Candidates, Slavery, Temperance, Tract Cause, Ministerial Support, and on Seamen, reported. Each of these Reports were adopted.

Voted, "That the Preachers stationed in Providence be a Committee on the application of beneficiaries of the Preachers' Aid Society.

TUESDAY, P. M.

Met according to adjournment. Religious exercises by Brother H. S. White.

The Report of the Committee on Necessitous Cases was adopted.

The Committee to consult with the New England Conference, on the erection of a Monument to the memory of Rev. Isaac Bonney, reported. The Report was accepted.

The Report on Missions was placed on file.

Voted, "That the thanks of Conference be tendered to our friends in Bristol, for their generous entertainment during our stay among them."

Thanks were also voted to the Superintendent of the Providence, Warren, and Bristol Railroad, for passing the members and friends over at half fare.

Closing services were performed by Bp. Janes, assisted by Dr. Sheppard of the Congregational Church.

MINUTES.

CONFERENCE INQUIRIES.

1. Who are admitted on Trial?

George W. Quereau, James M. Carroll, Varnum A. Cooper, Charles H. Paine, W. V. Morrison, J. F. Fogg, J. Pack, George S. Alexander, Alanson Latham.

- 2. Who remain on Trial?
- William E. Sheldon, Samuel F. Upham, J. N. Collier, B. K. Bosworth, J. E. Heald.
 - 3. Who are admitted into Full Connection?
 - E. S. Stanley, F. A. Loomis, J. H. Cooley, Charles A. Merrill.
 - 4. Who are the Deacons?

Orlando N. Brooks, J. W. Willett, Lewis E. Dunham, John A. M. Chapman, J. T. Benton, F. A. Loomis,* C. A. Merrill.*

5. Who have been elected and ordained Elders?

Charles Hammond, Asa N. Bodfish, J. C. Allen, Lewis B. Bates.

6. Who have Located this year?

George C. Bancroft, H. W. Houghton, E. W. Stickney, R. McGonegal, Henry Mayo, J. Macreading.

- 7. Who are the Supernumeraries?
- J. Cady, C. S. Hazard, S. Dean, S. Lamberton, E. F. Hinks, H. C. Atwater, A. B. Wheeler.
 - 8. Who are the Superannuated?

Asa Kent, New Bedford, Mass.; Lewis Bates, Taunton, Mass.; Francis Dane, East Foxboro', Mass.; Moses Fiefield, Centreville, R. I.; Daniel Fillmore, Providence, R. I.; Ebenezer Blake, Mystic Bridge, Ct.; Isaac Stoddard, Mystic Bridge, Ct.; Nathan Paine, New Bedford, Mass.; N. P. Philbrook; Herman Perry, Monument, Mass.; Onesiphorus Robbins, East Woodstock, Ct.; J. C. Goodridge, Pittsfield, Mass.; H. S. Ramsdell, West Thompson, Ct.; C. A. Carter, Leominster, Mass.; J. B. Husted, Alford, Berkshire Co., Mass.; Elihu Grant, Fall River, Mass.; George W. Stearns, New Bedford, Mass.; Daniel Dorchester, Dudley, Mass.

- 9. Who have been Expelled from the Connection this year? None.
- 10. Who have Withdrawn from the Connection this year? H. W. Smith.

- 11. Are all the Preachers blameless in life and conversation? No charges preferred against any.
- 12. Who have died this year? None.
- 13. What is the number of Church members? See Statistics.
- 14. What amounts are necessary for the Superannuated Preachers, and the Widows and Orphans of Preachers, and to make up the deficiencies of those who have not obtained their regular allowance on the Stations?

those who have not obtained their regular	r allowance on the Stations? .	
Superannuated Preachers, Widows,	and Orphans, \$2064.84 2469.87	
Deficiency of effective Preachers,		
	\$4534.71	
15. What has been collected on the f	oregoing account?	
From the Chartered Fund,	\$20.00	
Collected from the different Societies	s, 2044.84	
Amount,	\$2064.84	
Disburser	MENTS.	
Rev. A. Kent\$100 00 F		
" F. Dane 200 00	" E. Blake 100	00
" H. Perry 100 00	" D. Fillmore 1	42
" I. Stoddard 137 00 V	Vidow Stebbins 50	00

66	F. Dane	200	00	" E. Blake
	H. Perry			" D. Fillmore
44	I. Stoddard	137	00	Widow Stebbins
	L. Bates			" Rogers
	O. Robbins			" Stone
	L. Pierce			" Blanchard
	N. Paine			" Osborn
	C. A. Carter			" Peck
	T. D. Blake			

J. CADY,
B. M. WALKER,
A. GARDNER,

Stewards

. 50 00 . 100 00 . 71 . 71 \$2064 84

16. What has been contributed for the support of Missions, what for the publication of Tracts, what for the Sunday School Union, and what for the American Bible Society?

See Statistical Tables.

17. Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

[Note. The name of the appointment is the name of the Post-office address of the Preacher in charge, unless otherwise given. Where two places are named in one charge, the first is the name of the Post Office, unless otherwise given.]

PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

[N. B. The Post Offices in this District are in Rhode Island, unless otherwise given.]

CHARLES H. TITUS,—(P. O. Taunton, Mass.)—Presiding Elder.

Providence, Chestnut Street-George M. Carpenter.

" Power Street-James Mather.

Matthewson Street-Frederick Upham.

" Fountain Street-J. M. Carroll.

S. Providence Mission-Jonathan Cady.

New Bedford, Mass., Elm Street-Henry S. White.

" Fourth Street—Henry Baylies. 2

" Pleasant Street-John Howson, E. F. Hinks, sup.

" Allen Street-J. A. M. Chapman. J & Ooi

" Mount Pleasant—To be supplied.

Fairhaven, Mass.—Bartholomew Otheman.

North Fairhaven and Rochester, Mass.—Alanson Latham.

Fall River, Mass., First Church—Thomas Ely.

" St. Paul's-Samuel C. Brown.

Globe Village—(P. O. Fall River, Mass.)—Asa U. Swinerton.

Warren-James D. Butler.

Bristol-Andrew McKeown.

Newport, Marlboro' Street-Micah J. Talbot.

" Thames Street-Edward A. Lyon.

Middletown-Charles A. Merrill.

Portsmouth—To be supplied.

Little Compton—James B. Weeks.

Westport Point, Mass.—Benj. L. Sayer.

Taunton, Mass., First Church—Charles Nason.

' Central Church—Samuel F. Upham.

Mansfield, Mass.—Peter S. Mather.

North Rehoboth, Mass.—Henry H. Smith.

North Dighton, Mass.—Orlando N. Brooks.

Somerset, Mass.—Franklin Gavitt.

South Somerset—(P. O. Swanzey, Mass.)—V. A. Cooper.

Millville, Mass.-W. V. Morrison.

Woonsocket-Elisha B. Bradford.

Cumberland and North Attleboro'—(P. O. Diamond Hill, R. I.)—Abel Gardner.

Pawtucket—John Lovejoy. D. A. Maple Cong

Burrillville—(P. O. Pascoag, R. I.)—Samuel Fox.

East Greenwich—William Livesey, also Agent of Providence Conference Seminary.

Wickford—C. S. Hazard, sup.

Centerville-John Livesey.

Phenix-William H. Richards.

David Patten—(Concord, N. H.)—Professor in Biblical Institute, member of the Quarterly Conference of First Church, Fall River.

Abel Stevens-(New York)-Editor of the Christian Advocate and Journal, member of the Matthewson Street Quarterly Conference, Providence, R. I.

Daniel Wise—(New York)—Editor of the Sabbath School Publications, member of Quarterly Conference, St. Paul's, Fall River.

Robert Allyn-(E. Greenwich, R. I.)-Superintendent of State Normal School, R. I., member of East Greenwich Quarterly Conference.

G. W. Quereau—(East Greenwich, R. I.)—Principal of Providence Conference Seminary, member of East Greenwich Quarterly Conference.

NEW LONDON DISTRICT.

All the Post Offices in this District are in Connecticut, unless otherwise stated.]

Violity races

ANTHONY PALMER—(P. O. Willimantic)—Presiding Elder. 2. 10. 12 h

New London-John B. Gould.

Lyme and East Lyme—(P. O. Niantic)—John W. Case.

Mystic—John F. Sheffield.

Mystic Bridge—William Kellen.

Westerly, R. I.—Charles Hammond.

Hopkinton, R. I.—To be supplied.

Gale's Ferry and Groton—Jesse E. Heald.

Uncasville—Caleb S. Sanford.

Montville and Salem—To be supplied.

Norwich, East Main Street-Geo. W. Brewster.

West Main Street-Lorenzo D. Bentley.

Centre—To be supplied.

North—To be supplied.

Greenville—Jabez Pack.

Franklin and Lord's Bridge—To be supplied.

Hanover-To be supplied.

Hopeville—To be supplied.

Voluntown and Griswold—To be supplied.

Plainfield and Canterbury-Robert Parsons.

Danielsonville—L. W. Blood.

West Thompson - (P. O. Thompson) - L. B. Bates, S. Dean, sup.

East Thompson—(P. O. Thompson)—To be supplied.

Fisherville—Wm. S. Simmons.

East Woodstock—To be supplied.

West Woodstock—To be supplied.

Eastford—To be supplied.

Union—To be supplied.

Gurleyville—To be supplied. South Coventry-To be supplied. Willimantic-Wm. Turkington. Lebanon—Josiah T. Benton. Tolland—To be supplied. Willington-To be supplied. Stafford Springs—Erastus Benton. Square Pond- To be supplied. Somers—T. B. Gurney. Hazardville—G. W. Rogers. Thompsonville-J. D. King, S. Lamberton, sup-Warehouse Point—H. W. Conant. — Windsorville-Lozien Pierce. Wapping—(P. O. Buckland)—B. C. Phelps. Rockville—G. W. Wooding. Quarryville and Andover-Warren Emerson. North Manchester-P. T. Kenney.-South Manchester - Richard Livesey. Scotland—W. O. Cady. East Hartford—Charles Morse. East Glastenbury-E. S. Stanley. South Glastenbury-B. M. Walker. Portland—To be supplied. East Hampton—To be supplied. East Haddam—Nelson Goodrich. East Haddam Landing—To be supplied. Haddam Neck-Lyman Leffingwell. Colchester—James M. Worcester. Marlboro' and Hebron-A. M. Allen. we. Prelies to of SANDWICH DISTRICT. [All the Post Offices in this District are in Massachusetts.] Paul Townsend—(P. O. Cochesett)—Presiding Elder. Sandwich—C. H. Payne. crop photo work West Sandwich—To be supplied. to we wan South Sandwich—To be supplied. Barnstable—Daniel Webb. Osterville, M. Mills and C. Port-John W. Willett. Yarmouth Port-J. N. Collier. And Friendsville—(P. O. South Yarmouth)—E. B. Hinckley. South Yarmouth—To be supplied. 177 7

South and West Harwich—George Burnham.

Chatham—A. N. Bodfish.

East Harwich—To be supplied. . 1. The language

freet , all

Manyo Orleans-J. H. Cooley. Eastham and South Wellfleet-To be supplied. Wellfleet—E. K. Colby. South Truro—(P. O. Truro)—F. A. Loomis. Truro and North Truro-W. E. Sheldon. Provincetown Centre-M. P. Alderman. Provincetown, Wesley Chapel-B. K. Bosworth. Nantucket, Centre Street-S. W. Coggeshall. Nantucket, Fair Street-L. E. Dunham. Edgartown-W. H. Stetson. Holmes Hole-William Leonard. North Shore-To be supplied. Chilmark—John F. Fogg. Falmouth, East and West Falmouth—(P. O. Falmouth)—J. E. Gifford. Monument—One to be supplied, G. H. Winchester, sup. Wareham-L. Cady, H. C. Atwater, sup. Middleboro'-To be supplied. livet ? Plymouth—E. H. Hatfield.

Pembroke—(P. O. South Hanson)—George S. Alexander. South Scituate—(P. O. Hanover)—Lemuel Harlow.

Marshfield—To be supplied.

Duxbury—To be supplied.

Scituate-Richard Donkersley.

North Cohasset—To be supplied.

Hingham and Hull-Philip Crandon.

East Weymouth-Nathaniel Bemis.

Quincy—To be supplied.

North Bridgewater-John Cooper, A. B. Wheeler, sup.

Stoughton-Moses Chase.

N. W. Bridgewater-(P. O. North Bridgewater)-To be supplied.

Cochesett-Sanford Benton.

East Bridgewater-Carlos Banning.

North Easton-J. B. Hunt.

South Abington-To be supplied.

Where shall our next Conference be held? In the Methodist Episcopal Church, East Main street, Norwich, Conn.

Providence District.	Members	Probationers	Local Preachers	Whole Estimate	Receipts	Deficiency	General Missions	S. S. Union	Tract Society	Necessitous Cases	Biblical Institute	American Bible Society
Presiding Elder, Providence, Chestnit Street, Do Power Street, Do Fountain Street, Do Fountain Street, South Providence Mission, New Bedford, Elm Street, Do Pleasant Street, Do Allen Street, Do Allen Street, Do Allen Street, Do Heasant Street, Do St. Paul's Church, Fairhaven, North Fairhaven and Rochester, Fall River, First Church, Do St. Paul's Church, Globe Village, Warren, Bristol, Newport, Marlborough Street, Do Thames Street, Portsmouth, Little Compton, Westport Point, Tannton, First Church, Do Central Church, Mansfield, North Dighton, North Rehoboth, Somerset, South Somerset, Millville, Woonsocket, Cumberland, Pawtucket and N. Attleboro', Burrillville, Smithfield, East Greenwich, Wickford, Centreville,	290 193 286 101 155 136 150 177 37 108 71 231 172 231 1257 160 55 45 51 195 90 62 25 196 197 198 198 198 198 198 198 198 198 198 198	28 20 26 8 1 7 10 5 6 3 22 1 4	3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	700 1000 600 900 700 500 400 500 450 650 650 600 500 400 500 400 500 400 500 400 600 600 600 600 600 600 6	700 1000 600 900 700 700 625 402 284 750 800 800 800 650 500 186 550 400 222 2380 400 400 600 600 600 200 200 200 200 200 200 2	92 00	92 06 44 06 218 06 7 06 7 105 06 7 105 06 7 105 06 8 105 00 9 00 65 50 9 00 120 75 40 00 7 37 28 00 27 00 10 00 47 09 60 00 6 6 69 2 00 2 00 2 00 2 00	17 35 5 00 5 00 1 30 0 10 00 2 20 1 1 00 6 25 6 19 1 00 4 19 3 43 1 25 3 00 1 00 5 63 6 00 1 00 3 56	15 000 295 55 3 90 3 90 5 00 8 23 1 10 1 00 8 25 5 00 3 335	27 00 50 00 50 00 50 00 50 00 00 50 00 00	7 000 22 59 11 6 00 11 6 8 1 00 11 6 8 1 00 11 6 8 1 00 11 6 11 72	8 000 18 100 18
	4436	524	31		••••		1602 47	114 99	435 24	671 49	182 60	183 13

New London District.	Members	Probationers	Local Preachers	Whole Estimate	Receipts	General Missions	S. S. Union	Tract Society	Preacher's Aid	Biblical Institute	American Bible Society
PRESIDING ELDER, New London, Lyme and East Lyme, Mystic, Mystic Bridge, Gale's Ferry, Uncasville, Montville and Salem, Norwich, East Main Street, Do West Main Street, Do West Main Street, Hoevelle, Do North, Greenville, Franklin, Hanover, Hopeville, Voluntown and Griswold, Hopkinton, Westerly, Plainfield and Canterbury, Danielsouville, West Thompson, East Thompson, East Thompson, Fisherville, East Woodstock, Union and Eastford, Gurleyville, South Coventry, Willimantic, Lebanon, Tolland and Willington, Square Pont, Stafford Springs, Somers, Hazardville, Thompsonville, Warehouse Point, Windsorville, Warehouse Point, Windsorville, Warping, Rockville, Quarryville and Andover, North Manchester, South Manchester, South Manchester, South Manchester, South Manchester, South Manchester, South Glastenbury, Portland, East Hartford, East Hartford, East Harddam, Haddam Neck, Colchester, Marlboro' and Hebron,		3 9 9 7 22 2 11 16 49 7 11 16 3 3 3 13 15 5 18 22 16 6 13 3 2 2 2 17 7 14 4 6 6 13 19 5 4 2 110 11 16	1 3 3 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 4 1 1 1 1 3 3 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 1	100 100 350 325 300 150 392 210 300 500 500 500 400 410 482 375 600		14 00 7 41 7 00 15 00 105 68 90 00 33 56 26 00 10 61 83 15: 12 65 85 00 61 49 50 00 17 38 30 00 20 00 18 00 17 28 30 68 14 00 11 00 11 00 12 20	2 40 4 00 2 50 5 00 3 00 1 22 1 00 1 50 2 00 2 00 2 00 2 16 5 00 2 16 5 00 2 16 5 00 1 22 3 3 78 3 78	3 000 8 00 9 000 2 65 1 00 2 65 1 00 1 50 2 00 1 50 2 00 2 65 1 00	5 17 4 00 9 00 5 00 10 00 20 00 22 00 2 25	2 51 2 00 3 00 2 19 5 00 2 2 75 5 00 1 00 5 10 3 00 3 50 5 68 4 00 2 20 2 20	0 50 4 59 1 12 22 75 5 00 5 00 6 83 5 00 1 50 6 85 30 00
Total,	4670	618	46	19,530	19,393	1842 79	96 45	70 51	605 18	84 07	221 35

PRESIDING ELDER,	SANDWICH DISTRICT.	Members	Probationers	Local Preachers	Whole Estimate	Receipts	General Missions	S. S. Union	Tract Society	Necessitous Cases	Biblical Institute	American Bible Society
Wareham, 114 6 200 14 50 2 68 Middleboro', 30 200 <td>Sandwich, South Sandwich, South Sandwich, Marston's Mills and Cotuit Port, Osterville, Barnstable, Yarmouth Port, Friendsville, Chatham, East Harwich, South Harwich, West Harwich, Orleans, Eastham and South Wellfleet, Wellfleet, South Truro, Truro and North Truro, Provincetown Centre, Do Wesley Chapel, Nantucket, Centre Street, Do Fair Street, Edgartown, Holmes' Hole and North Shore, Chilmark, Falmouth and E. and W. do. Monument, Plymouth, Duxbury, West Duxbury, Pembroke, South Abington, South Scituate, Marshfield, Scituate, Marshfield, Scituate, North Cohaset, East Weymouth, North Bridgewater, Cochesett, North Bridgewater, Stoughton, Wareham, Middleboro', Hingham and Hull,</td> <td>82 35 101 422 466 500 140 47 223 75 140 285 113 3099 117 218 84 205 138 84 205 138 86 96 96 96 96 117 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218</td> <td>25 10 18 31 5 7 12 14 15 17 14 10 10 10 20 20 21 21 21 21 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41</td> <td>1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</td> <td>6000 475 300 457 400 500 350 400 325 600 625 426 342 550 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 376 376 376 376 376 3776 3776 3776</td> <td>566 4000 90 320 320 320 3500 400 105 2555 425 425 600 4377 700 625 358 600 320 426 550 375 294 188 300 332 500 600 700 227 400</td> <td>100 77 22 00 8 55 18 00 3 25 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28</td> <td>2 000 1 000 3 000 4 000 4 100 1 000 2 205 2 500 4 100</td> <td>3 00 1 00 1 00 3 02 </td> <td>14 00 1 1 15 6 91 1 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 1 8 25 4 0 00 2 0 00 3 8 67 7 25 3 6 70 2 2 0 00 3 8 6 70 2 0 00 3 8 6 70 2 0 00 1</td> <td>3 00 1 00 1 00 2 00 1 71 1 00 2 35 6 00 1 41 1 00 2 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1</td> <td>1 000 1 000 5 550 4 000 9 00 5 05 505 1 000 1 000 3 000 4 55 500 4 55 500 1 00</td>	Sandwich, South Sandwich, South Sandwich, Marston's Mills and Cotuit Port, Osterville, Barnstable, Yarmouth Port, Friendsville, Chatham, East Harwich, South Harwich, West Harwich, Orleans, Eastham and South Wellfleet, Wellfleet, South Truro, Truro and North Truro, Provincetown Centre, Do Wesley Chapel, Nantucket, Centre Street, Do Fair Street, Edgartown, Holmes' Hole and North Shore, Chilmark, Falmouth and E. and W. do. Monument, Plymouth, Duxbury, West Duxbury, Pembroke, South Abington, South Scituate, Marshfield, Scituate, Marshfield, Scituate, North Cohaset, East Weymouth, North Bridgewater, Cochesett, North Bridgewater, Stoughton, Wareham, Middleboro', Hingham and Hull,	82 35 101 422 466 500 140 47 223 75 140 285 113 3099 117 218 84 205 138 84 205 138 86 96 96 96 96 117 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218 218	25 10 18 31 5 7 12 14 15 17 14 10 10 10 20 20 21 21 21 21 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	6000 475 300 457 400 500 350 400 325 600 625 426 342 550 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 250 376 376 376 376 376 376 3776 3776 3776	566 4000 90 320 320 320 3500 400 105 2555 425 425 600 4377 700 625 358 600 320 426 550 375 294 188 300 332 500 600 700 227 400	100 77 22 00 8 55 18 00 3 25 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28 7 28	2 000 1 000 3 000 4 000 4 100 1 000 2 205 2 500 4 100	3 00 1 00 1 00 3 02 	14 00 1 1 15 6 91 1 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 2 5 00 1 8 25 4 0 00 2 0 00 3 8 67 7 25 3 6 70 2 2 0 00 3 8 6 70 2 0 00 3 8 6 70 2 0 00 1	3 00 1 00 1 00 2 00 1 71 1 00 2 35 6 00 1 41 1 00 2 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1	1 000 1 000 5 550 4 000 9 00 5 05 505 1 000 1 000 3 000 4 55 500 4 55 500 1 00

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT. I. STATISTICS.

DISTRICTS.	No. of Sunday Schools	Officers and Teachers	Scholars	Volumes in Library	No. of Bible Classes	Scholars in Infant Classes	Expenses of the Schools this year	Raised for S. S. Union	S. S. Advocates taken	Conversions
Providence,	43	818	5019	22756	149	729	1733 77	110 14	1655	152
New London,	54	673	3463	15937	134	256	980 53	95 37	1684	166
Sandwich,	43	629	3577	16304	89	287	855 15	101 77	1395	87
Total,	140	2110	12057	54997	372	1272	3569 45	307 28	4734	405
Last year,	142	2059	12129	52335	323	1895	2843 35	348 88	4294	456
Increase,		51		2662	49		726 10		440	
Decrease,	2		72	•••••		123		41 61		51

102 %

II. SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

REV. N. Bemis, Chairman, and Vice President Sunday School Union.

DISTRICT.	Ministers.	Post Office Address.
Providence,		
New London,	Anthony Palmer,	Willimantic, Conn.
Sandwich,	P. Townsend,	Cochesett.

III. REPORT, RESOLUTIONS, &c.

The Sunday School Committee finds in the investigation of the Sunday School cause within the bounds of the Providence Conference, an increase over last year of 51 officers and teachers, 2,662 volumes in library, 49 bible classes, \$726.10 for the expenses of Schools, and 450 S. School Advocate; and a decrease of 2 schools, 72 scholars, 123 scholars in the infant classes, \$41.61 raised for S. S. Union, 62 societies reporting nothing, and a decrease of 51 conversions.

To secure a larger success in this nursery department of the church, and to secure action on other points which we deem important, we recommend the adoption of the following Resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the circumstances must be peculiar, indeed, that will justify a neglect of the requirements of the discipline to take collections in

our societies for the Sunday School Union.
2. Resolved, That we believe the plan of district S. S. Conventions now in operation among us, calculated to promote in a high degree the best interests of Sunday Schools, and we recommend their continuance, and more mature developement.

3. Resolved, That the presiding elders be a committee to call such conventions on their respective districts, and devise other means for the success of the S. S. cause.

4. Resolved, That a Vice President of the S. S. Union be elected ac-

cording to the plan of the Union.

5. Resolved, That the artistic beauty and the adaptation of the S. S. Advocate to the capacity and taste of children and youth, merit the hearty approbation of the church, and we pledge ourselves to promote its circulation.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education, believing that the institutions under our patronage enjoy the sympathies of the members of the Conference, proceed at once to practical suggestions, which they beg leave to embody in Resolutions for the action of the Conference.

The financial exhibit of the Wesleyan University, presents its financial interests in quite as healthy a condition as at any former period.

- 1. Resolved, That our interest in the Wesleyn University is unabated, and that we desire such reforms as will ensure for it the largest success.
- 2. Resolved, That Revs. Wm. Livesey and G. W. Quereau be and hereby are appointed visitors to the Wesleyan University; and Revs. Robt. Allyn and C. S. Sanford, reserves.
- 3. Resolved, That the Providence Conference Seminary, under its present efficient management, enjoys our entire confidence, and that the immediate erection of the proposed academy edifice, is essential to its continued prosperity.
- 4. Resolved, That, whereas \$10,000 is already subscribed for the new academy, the Trustees are hereby requested to complete the building with all expedient dispatch.
- · 5. Resolved, That Revs. C. H. Titus, A. Palmer, C. Banning, and Stephen Shove, of Fall River, Wm. P. Hyde, of Mystic, R. M. Smith, of East Bridgewater, be and hereby are appointed visitors to the Providence Conference Seminary.
- 6. Resolved, That we are gratified with the increasing success and usefulness of the Methodist General Biblical Institute, and will cheerfully continue our annual contributions for its support.
- 7. Resolved, That Revs. H. Baylies, C. S. Sanford, and R. B. Johnson, of Warren, P. M. Stone, of Prov., be and hereby are appointed visitors of the Biblical Institute.
- 8. Resolved, That we receive the New England Education Society, as a promising auxiliary to all our other educational institutions, and ask for it a large place in the hearts of our people, and liberal contributions to its funds.
- 9. Resolved, That the Committees appointed by this Conference to visit our literary institutions, be and hereby are requested to report to the next session of the Conference, the condition of such institutions.

H. BAYLIES, Sec. Com. Education.

REPORT OF THE AGENT OF THE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

Funds of the Trustees of the Wesleyan University.

	Bristol, April 6, 1857.
David Sisson and others, Joint Note	
Y. Fillmore, Note	2250 00
S. S. Paine and others, Joint Note	
Pawtucket Note	
10 shares in the Westminster Bank, cost	510 00
5 " Bank of North America, cost	
Amount	\$9250 00
Cash on hand	187 86
Notes due	766 95
Amount	\$10,206 81

Respectfully submitted.

DANIEL FILLMORE, Agent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NECESSITOUS CASES.

April 6, 1857.

The Committee on Necessitous Cases, having attended to the business assigned them, beg leave to report, that, after the usual examination of the situation and necessities of the Superannuated Preachers, Widows, and Orphans dependent upon the Conference, they find it necessary to apportion upon the Societies the sum of two thousand two hundred and ninety-five dollars, (\$2,295.)

The apportionments are as follows:

PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

Providence, Chesnut st\$50	Westport Point \$6
" Power st 35	Taunton, First Church 25
" Mathewson st 50	" Central Church 20
" Fountain st 10	North Rehoboth
New Bedford, Elm st 40	North Dighton
" Fourth st 30	Somerset 8
" Pleasant st 30	South Somerset & Steep Brook. 7
" Allen st 30	Middleboro' & Rochester 5
" Mt. Pleasant 10	Wareham 15
Fair Haven	South Dartmouth 0
North Fair Haven 10	Millville & Slatersville 10
Fall River, First Church 30	Woonsocket
" St. Paul's 30	Cumberland & Attleboro' 8
" Globe Village 10	Pawtucket 20
Warren 45	Burrillville
Bristol	Smithfield 5
Newport, Marlboro' st 25	East Greenwich 20
" Thames st 10	Wickford 5
Portsmouth 10	Centreville & Natick 15
Little Compton 10	Phenix 25

NEW LON	NDO	ON DISTRICT.	
New London\$	40	Gurleyville	10
	10	Lebanon	12
	20	Willimantie	15
	30	Tolland and Mansfield	5
	10	Stafford Springs	20
Unaparilla		Williams	5
	10	Willington	
Montville and Salem	6	Square Pond	5
	30	Somers	10
	20	Hazardville	25
	20	Warehouse Point	20
	12	Thompsonville	20
Greenville	15	Windsorville and Ellington	10
Voluntown	3	Wapping	20
Griswold	3	Rockville	25
Hopeville	5	South Manchester	30
			30
Eagleville	3	North Manchester	15
Hanover	5	Quarryville	
Hopkinton	3	Andover	3
Westerly	8	East Hartford	25
Plainfield	12	Scotland	12
Canterbury	3	South Glastenbury	8
Danielsonville	20	East Glastenbury	15
737 (73)	22	East Hampton	5
	10	East Haddam	15
	15	Haddam Neck	10
East Woodstock	5	Colchester	12
West Woodstock	5	Marlboro	12
			3
C	10	Hebron	
South Coventry	5	Portland	20
Sandwi	CH	DISTRICT.	
Sandwich 2	25	Chilmark	10
	12	Falmouth	10
South Sandwich	5	East Falmouth	4
Manatan's Mills	5		4
Marston's Mills		West Falmouth	
Cotuit Port	5	Monument	10
	10	Plymouth	15
Barnstable	5	Duxbury	12
Yarmouth Port	5	West Duxbury	8
Friendsville 1	12	Pembroke	8
Chatham 2	25	South Abington	3
East Harwich	5	South Scituate	8
South Harwich	5	Marshfield	10
West Harwich	5	Scituate	20
Orleans	5	North Cohasset	10
	20	Hingham	8
	10	Hull	5
		East Weymouth	40
	20		
	2	Quincy	3
	5	North Bridgewater	30
	0	Cochesset	18
	0	North West Bridgewater	10
	0	Stoughton	15
Edgartown 4		Easton	5
Holmes Hole 2	5	Mansfield	10
North Shore	5	East Bridgewater	10

The resolutions below were re-adopted this year:

Resolved, That the present Committee on Necessitous Cases be con-

tinued to the next session of the Conference.

Resolved, That the Committee on Necessitous Cases shall not hereafter be required to make appropriations to those persons who neglect to forward to the Secretary of said Committee annually a written statement of the condition of their financial affairs, together with the number of their family.

Resolved, That at the next session of the Conference, the present Committee on Necessitous Cases be authorized to increase or diminish the estimates made at this Conference, and make appropriations from moneys

raised, according to the statements rendered, or otherwise.

Resolved, That the preachers be requested to take up their collections for necessitous cases as early in the year as may be practicable, and trans-

mit the same to the Treasurer of the Preachers' Aid Society.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Preachers' Aid Society be and is hereby instructed to pay to the persons to whom appropriations have been made, fifty per cent. of their estimates, at any time during the ensuing year, from any moneys which may come into his hands for that purpose, if applied for.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES D. BUTLER, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE IRISH DELEGATION.

As Methodists, we are under obligation to respond to this call for pecuniary assistance for Ireland. The men who laid the foundations of our Church, came from the land of Adam Clarke and Thomas Walsh.

Your Committee would have this Conference mark, that from the first, emigration to our country has thinned the ranks of Irish Methodism. There are now 25,000 members in our Church who were born in Ireland. 250 ministers in our ranks are from the same source. Were we to include the children of Irish parents in our estimate, the number would be greatly increased. Many of these men of God occupy positions of high responsibility among us; they are in our Episcopacy—members of our college faculties—and various other posts of responsibility are filled by them. Is it not just, then, that we render back to Ireland a part, at least, of our equivalent, for what constitutes our strength and efficiency?

Viewing the scheme in the light of a grand Missionary enterprise where can we find a more inviting field for present exertion? Ireland, wherever the English language is spoken, is the Gibraltar of Romanism. There her English-speaking priests are trained. This fact alone, were there no others, should move us to a warm and generous response to the call made upon our liberality.

In view of these considerations, as well as many others that might be named, the Committee beg leave to offer for the consideration of the Conference, the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That we cordially recommend the Rev. F. S. DeHaas and Rev. Wm. Reilly, and their cause, to the confidence and sympathy of the Church and of the public.

2. Resolved, That a collection in aid of the Irish Mission be taken up in the month of June, 1857, by the members of this Conference, in their respective charges, where it has not already been done.

The Committee appointed to receive money for the Irish Mission, re-

port as follows:					
Received from Centre street Station, Nantucke	et,	-	-	-	\$7 34
do from Portland,	-	-	-	-	6 00
do from Wapping,	-	-	-	-	8 15
do from Rev. A. U. Swinerton, -	-	-	-	-	10 00
do from Cochesett,	-	-	-	-	3 00
do from Mr. N. Damon, of Pembroke,	-	-	-	-	5 00
					\$39 49
Paid to Bro. J. Porter, from Centre st. Province	etow	7n,		-	\$9 00
" " Bro. J. Sleeper, from Edgartown,	-	-		-	9 50
" " from Holmes Hole	,	-		-	7 00
Sent to New York, from East Greenwich,		-		-	5 00
From Sandwich, paid to Bro. Rand,		-		-	12 00
			1		
					\$42 50

W. H. RICHARDS.

BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause Report:—That on inspecting the operations of the A. B. Society, as detailed in their last annual report, we find that its success has been marked and satisfactory, and in view of its past and prospective success, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:-

1. Resolved, That we most cordially recommend the American Bible

Society to the enlarged liberality of the Churches.

2. That the results of the recent effort of the Society to explore the country and supply the destitute with the word of life, eminently prove its wisdom and necessity, and we recommend the people to co-operate in the movement, and the Society to proceed in the glorious work.

3. Resolved, That we respectfully request the managers of the Parent Society, to urge on the auxiliaries in the south, the importance of doing the most that circumstances permit, to place the Bible in the hands of the

slave.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance simply submit the following resolutions, as expressive of their sentiments on the subject submitted to their con-

Resolved, That we gratefully recognize the temperance reform as having accomplished a vast amount of good. It has saved men from vice and from crime; from pauperism and from wretchedness; from disease and from death; and above all, from the damnation of hell. It has saved many households from misery and from despair; from untold griefs, and from unutterable sorrows. It has saved communities from moral debasement and from ruin; and has contributed, in no small degree, to the present extraordinary material prosperity of our country; and above all, it has filled our churches with happy converts, and largely assisted to people

heaven with redeemed spirits.

2. Resolved, That all these things have been done, mainly by moral suasion, and therefore, that we earnestly exhort all our preachers and friends not to relax their efforts in this good cause; and that as our intended work is not yet accomplished, that they improve all opportunities, to preach sermons, deliver lectures, and make addresses on this subject, and by every practicable mode, to promote this good work; and the blessings of thousands ready to perish will come upon them.

3. Resolved, That we regard the liquor traffic, and especially as now conducted, as a crime against God and against man—a crime of such immense magnitude, and of such atrocious enormity, as cannot well be estimated, a crime which is a disgrace to the civilization and the Christianity

of the age, a moral nuisance to be speedily abated.

4. Resolved, Therefore, we regard a prohibitory liquor law in precisely the same light in which we regard all other laws prohibitory of vice and crime, or whatever else conflicts with the interests and happiness of society, as just, reasonable, and eminently constitutional; and that as Christian ministers and as American citizens, we pledge ourselves by the exercise of our influence, and by all other legitimate means, to support and sustain all such good laws, and that we exhort all the members of our flocks for the love of God, in his compassion to the vicious and the miserable, to do the same.

E. B. BRADFORD, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY.

The general subject of slavery has been so often discussed in our annual reports, that your Committee deem it unnecessary to detain the Conference with a repetition of it; but, lest silence should be misconstrued, we think it important to say that, in our estimation, each year reveals more fully its inexpressible abominations, and confirms our convictions that, as a system, it is the antagonist of social improvement and happiness, of civil progress and prosperity, and of religious purity and peace. In view of this fact, we deeply regret any occurrence that tends to spread this enormity or to entrench it in its present positions. While we acknowledge that something was gained to the cause of freedom by the action of the late General Conference, we confess to great disappointment that nothing more was done on this important subject. We did hope that when the aggressions of this monster of iniquity were exciting the astonishment and alarm of all the friends of freedom and humanity, that a body of Christian ministers, representing one of the largest Christian churches in the new world, and exerting a wider influence for good or ill on the great moral questions of the day, than any other similar association, would be found ready and prompt to give its voice, unmistakably, against this violation of every human right.

The late decision of the Supreme Court, which nationalizes slavery and reverses previous decisions in favor of freedom as the national birth-right of all the inhabitants of our loved country, has overwhelmed us with surprise and grief, and affords additional assurance that the decisive battle for freedom is yet to be fought.

We present, in conclusion, the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st. That it is the sense of this Conference, that the general rule in our discipline, which forbids the "buying and selling of men, women and children, with an intention to enslave them," does not authorize the holding of them as slaves, and that the enactment of that rule was never designed by our fathers to fortify slavery in the church against all ordinary legislation.

Resolved, 2d. That we are decidedly in favor of the introduction into

the discipline, of a chapter forbidding slave-holding in the church.

Resolved, 3d. That the position of the Editor of the Zion's Herald, upon this subject, meets our hearty approval, and we cordially welcome him among us, as a fellow-laborer in the sacred cause of humanity and

religion.

Resolved, 4th. That the course of the editor of the S. S. Advocate, in the columns of that paper, and in issuing anti-slavery tracts for the use of Sunday Schools, deserves our decided commendation, and justifies the hope that the good work thus begun will be continued, till suitable Sunday School books on this subject shall be found in our already extensive cata-

Resolved, 5th. That the present is no time to abate in zeal and effort for the overthrow of this giant curse; and, as Christian ministers, we pledge ourselves to a continued, increased and LIFE-LONG warfare

against it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. C. BROWN, Chairman.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

There are many things peculiar to the case of Christian ministers.

- 1. Men, in devoting themselves to the Christian ministry, also devote themselves to stipendiary poverty. The avenues to wealth, and all it affords, are open to all other men - to the merchants, to manufacturers, to farmers, to mariners, and even to mechanics; but to the Christian minister they are closed. Whatever may be his learning, his genius, his eloquence, his talents and his power, so far as the acquisition of wealth is concerned, they avail him nothing. So far as his ministry, with all its wasting toils and its exhausting labors are concerned, he must live and die a poor man. There are a few exceptions to this, mostly arising from other causes, but they do not at all invalidate the general rule.
- 2. Christian ministers labor without a due compensation, and this by rule. A bare living is not a compensation for labor, and, especially, for valuable and important labor. No other class of men in the land esteem it as such. For proof: At the first census of 1790, with a population of 68,000, the property of Rhode Island amounted to \$10,000,000. In 1850 with a population of 147,000, its property was \$70,000,000. Thus while the population of the state had but little more than doubled, its property had increased seven fold. We could make similar statements respecting Massachusetts, and indeed of the whole nation. Says a distinguished historian, Mr. Hildreth, "the capital upon which the country went into business, at the close of the war of Independence, was the funded Revo-

lutionary war debt of \$73,000,000." Our late Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Guthrie, now estimates the property of the nation at \$11,260,000,000, and this is increasing at a greater ratio than ever. Mr. Speaker Banks also estimates the annual productive industry of the country at \$4,000,000,000. This shows that no class of men in the land, save the slaves, labor for a mere living. They acquire wealth, and that very rapidly, by their labor. The Christian ministry are the only exception to this; and it is a sad and mournful reflection that it is so. And to place this fact in a still clearer light, we would add, that the cost of religion in this country, including all its expenses, is estimated at \$25,000,000. This is but the one hundred and sixtieth of its productive industry; and as but one-half of this sum is expended upon the ministry, it reduces their share to a three hundred and twentieth part.

And further, with the rapid increase of wealth in the nation, and especially of the precious metals, the cost of living, within the last four years alone, has advanced seventy-five per cent.; so that a salary of \$500 now is worth scarcely more than \$300 five or six years ago. Hence, although there has been a great increase in ministers' salaries within this period, and which we gratefully acknowledge, yet this increase does not correspond with the increase in the cost of living, nor especially with the increase of the wealth of the country. Hence the present exigency is not met.

Some of the consequences of this state of things are,—

- 1. Some of our brethren, with their families, are subjected to great sufferings and privations. They say but little about them. But many men in this Conference could tell a Shady Side story, equal to any that has yet been published. Our hearts bleed as we contemplate these facts.
- 2. Some are involved in almost hopeless debt, not to large amounts, indeed; but great and small are relative terms, and with their limited and uncertain resources, these debts greatly embarrass their feelings, crush their energies, and hinder their efficiency and usefulness.
- 3. Some of our brethren have children children that are as dear to them as are the children of others to them, and who are to be educated; but to accomplish which they have no adequate means whatever. God only knows the parental anxieties that are felt among us on this account. The two Connections, north and south, have two hundred and sixty academies and colleges, some of which are first class institutions—large and flourishing. But there is not a Kingswood nor a Woodhouse Grove School among them all. Not one of them, as among our English brethren, is devoted to the education of preachers' children.

In consequence of these things, some who are needed decline to enter the ministry. Others who have entered it leave it; and the efficiency and usefulness of many who remain are greatly hindered.

And yet, the Great Head of the church introduces his ministers to the

world, not as lords, to live in luxury upon the unrequited labors of their fellow-men; nor as paupers for whom he humbly solicits the charity of their brethren; but as *laborers*, of whom he says that, like all other laborers in the various departments of human society, "they are worthy of their hire."

S. W. COGGESHALL, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SEAMEN.

The Committee on Seamen beg leave to report:

The United States, although yet in their infancy, and the youngest among the nations of any political importance, and although the whole history of their present government is embraced within the memory of man -men who voted for Washington for the first President of the Republic, at the first Federal election in 1789, being now alive - yet they have already become the first Maritime Nation on the face of the globe; with 45,000 ships, among which are some of the largest and finest afloat, embracing a tonnage of 5,661,000, and which is rapidly increasing; and 250,000 seamen, among which are the best in the world; and further, with half a continent in our possession, embracing an area of country of more than 3,223,000 of square miles, and containing almost every variety of soil, climate, and productions; with the greatest length of sea-coast of any nation on earth, embracing 20 degrees of latitude on the Atlantic, and 17 degrees on the Pacific, and of 20,000 miles extent, with all its indentations; and with corresponding intelligence and industry, together with an enterprise among our citizens to improve those vast natural resources, our commercial interests seem capable of indefinite expansion, and continue to increase to an almost unlimited extent. Already we present a spectacle of sublimity and grandeur, in this respect, such as the world never before saw; and where the end will be, no one can predict.

The time has already come in which is literally fulfilled in us, the word of the prophet of God: "Then shalt thou tremble and overflow with joy; thy heart shall be agitated and swell with delight, when the riches of the sea shall be turned toward thee, and the wealth of the nations shall come unto thee."—Noyes' Translation.

Although our Conference is but small, yet we possess the largest extent of sea-coast of any, save the California and the New York East Conferences; a larger number of native seamen than any other, without exception; while more than three-fourths of the entire whaling fleet of the world is owned within our bounds.

Hence our responsibility for seamen is probably greater than that of any other ecclesiastical body of our size in the whole world. Many of the seamen are embraced in our societies, especially in the eastern section of our Conference, where entire churches (as on the Cape) are almost wholly composed of these "men of the brine," who are ornaments to the church of God!

Yet all this has been done by our ordinary gospel ministrations; with all our responsibilities in this case, and with all our facilities for their discharge, we have, as yet, done nothing, specially, for this interesting class of

The Missionary Society of the M. E. Church support bethels for seamen in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and San Francisco, with 6 missionaries or seamen's chaplains, and about 777 members in the societies; the church of Rev. E. T. Taylor in North Square, Boston, not being included, though its pulpit is supplied by the N. E. Conference; it being supported by a local society, known as the "Boston Port Society."

Your Committee recommend that this interesting and useful class of men be especially commended to the attention of our societies in New London, Newport, New Bedford, Holmes Hole, Edgartown, Nantucket and Provincetown, that by inviting them to their houses of worship, distributing bibles and tracts among them, preaching especially to them, instituting lectures for their special benefit, and by all means in their power, they zealously endeavor to do them all possible good, and to save their souls from death; and "the blessings of those ready to perish will come upon them."

Your Committee are of the opinion that our General Missionary Committee in New York would do well to take into their consideration the propriety of making an appropriation to the cause of seamen within our bounds.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. W. COGGESHALL, GEO. C. BANCROFT, J. D. BUTLER.

Vice Presidents.

April 8, 1857.

OFFICERS OF THE PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE TRACT SOCIETY, AUXILIARY, &c.

THE PRESIDING BISHOP, President.

Rev. Wm. LIVESEY, Wm. H. S. BAILEY, of Bristol,

JOSIAH H. WEBSTER, of Providence, D. B. Eddy, Somerset,

ABNER L. WESTGATE, of Fall River,

N. Holmes, of Provincetown,
N. B. Hall, of Providence, Treasurer.
Rev. H. S. White, of New Bedford, Secretary.

Managers.—Rev.'s Wm. H. Richards, Wm. Kellen, Carlos Banning, Micah J. Talbot, Orlando N. Brooks, Henry W. Conant, Franklin Gavitt, C. S. Sanford, J. W. Case, L. W. Blood, H. H. Smith, Josiah T. Benton, Messrs. W. R. Drew, Preston Bennet, Granville Stevens, J. W. Gladding, Iram Smith, Wm. Mason, R. B. Johnson, W. B. Lawton.

TRACT REPORT.

The Committee upon the Tract Cause, having taken that subject into consideration, would report: That they regard both the organization and the purposes of the Tract Society as objects of the first importance; and

that while the world needs religious knowledge, and the times demand cheap reading, we are deeply impressed with the utility and necessity of this Society, and of our vigorous and faithful co-operation in carrying on its work.

We are persuaded that its publications are as good and cheap as those of any other Society, and that they ought to be circulated extensively among the people of our towns and rural districts; and we take this opportunity to suggest that each Society in the Providence Conference take at least fifty copies of the "Good News," chiefly for gratuitous distribution. Its present volume begins with the first of April. Terms \$4 50 for fifty copies. And we recommend that the preachers in all the stations take their collections at once, and use half of it, if they please, to buy tracts or the Good News, and thus begin the work immediately. They can be procured from J. P. Magee, Boston, and charged to the Society.

And now since the chief objection raised against "The Tract Society" has been removed by the action of our late General Conference, we do sincerely hope that ministers and people will give it their faithful support; and therefore we beg leave to present to the Conference the following resolution, passed by this Conference in 1854, for re-adoption:

Resolved, That we will give special attention to the annual collection for this cause, and heartily recommend it to our people as deserving of the largest liberality.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed.

C. S. SANFORD, H. H. SMITH, A. GARDNER, C. BANNING, J. HOWSON.

OFFICERS OF THE PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE MISSION-ARY SOCIETY FOR 1857-58.

PRESIDING BISHOP, President.

Vice Presidents.

REV. B. OTHEMAN, REV. E. B. BRADFORD, REV. A. U. SWINERTON, Treasurer. REV. NATHANIEL BEMIS, Secretary.

Managers.—Revs. L. W. Blood, J. B. Gould, M. J. Talbot, and Wm. Kellen.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions present the following report:	
Number of Missions continued	17
New Missions	11
Whole Number	28
Providence District.	
Fountain st., Providence \$75 Globe Village	25
Providence and S. Prov. Miss. 125 Burrillville	25
Newport, Thames st 100 Millville	25
Westport Point 75 Mansfield	25
North Fairhaven 25	\$500

N T	D		
New London	N DISTRICT.		
Lyme and East Lyme 50	East Haddam Landing 50 Fisherville 25		
Westerly \$100 Lyme and East Lyme 50 Somers 75 South Glastenbury 75	Franklin and Lord's Bridge 50		
South Glastenbury 75	East Hampton 50		
Uncasville 25	500		
SANDWICH			
Plymouth	Orleans 30		
Hingham 75	North Easton		
Yarmouth port 30	South Yarmouth		
East Bridgewater 100			
Barnstable	\$500		
To each District			
Total			
	E. BENTON, PAUL TOWNSEND,		
	C. H. TITUS.		
I concur in the foregoing Report of	the Mission Committee.		
2 3 1	E. S. JANES.		
Bristol, April 6, 1857.			
DRAMDENGU GOMENDENGU			
PROVIDENCE CONFERENCE			
	ved too late for insertion at length.		
The following is a statement of his ac			
Cash on hand	\$1,294 44		
neceived from sundry preachers	\$1,415 44		
Paid out for necessitous cases,	. ,		
Balance on hand	1,300 98		
	\$1,415 44		
APPOINTMENTS FOR PREAC	HING BOD THE NEVT CEC		
SION OF CO			
Tuesday evening—J. Lovejoy, J. E			
Wednesday afternoon—Geo. M. Ca	arpenter, Carlos Banning.		
Wednesday evening—A. McKeown Thursday afternoon—N. Bemis, J.	n, J. B. Gould.		
Thursday afternoon—N. Bemis, J.	f the S. S. Union. Addresses by		
C. S. Sanford and Wm. H. Stetson.			
Friday afternoon—Missionary Sermon—A. McKeown, S. C. Brown. Friday evening—Missionary Anniversary—Addresses by H. Baylies			
Friday evening—Missionary Anni and J. Mather.	versary—Addresses by H. Baylies		
Saturday afternoon—F. Upham, C.	. Nason.		
Saturday evening—Bible Society M	Meeting.		
Monday afternoon—J. W. Willett,	J. B. Hunt.		
Geo. Burnham and R. Parsons.	f the Tract Society—Addresses by		
Tuesday afternoon—H. W. Conant,	, W. O. Cady.		
Tuesday evening—R. Donkersley,	T. B. Gurney.		

EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

FIRST YEAR.

Bible Doctrines-A. U. Swinerton. Watson's Institutes, First Part—Geo. Burnham. Wesley's Christian Perfection—D. Webb. English Grammar-G. W. Brewster. Essay or Sermon-J. D. King.

SECOND YEAR.

Bible Sacraments—Lawton Cady. Watson's Institutes, Second Part—E. Benton. Peck's Christian Perfection and Fletcher's Appeal-S. Benton. Methodist Discipline and Stephens's Church Polity-F. Upham. Essay or Sermon—L. W. Blood.

THIRD YEAR.

Bible History and Chronology—B. Otheman. Watson's Institutes, Third Part—Wm. H. Richards. Butler's Analogy—David Patten. Hibbard on Baptism, and Ruter's Church History-J. M. Worcester. Newman's Rhetoric and Hedge's Logic—N. Bemis. Mitchell's Ancient Geography, and Essay or Sermon-Wm. H. Stetson.

FOURTH YEAR.

Review of the whole Course—G. M. Carpenter. Watson's Institutes, Fourth Part—M. P. Alderman. Claude's Essay—C. Nason. Horne's Introduction—J. B. Gould. Essay or Sermon—E. H. Hatfield.

The first named on each Committee is Chairman. If he is absent the next named will act in his place. Any other vacancy may be filled by the Chairman.

AN ALPHABETICAL ARRANGEMENT OF THE PREACHERS. WITH THEIR PRESENT FIELD OF LABOR, &c.

[Note. The figures in the left hand column denote the time of entering Conference.

[Note.] The figures in the left hand column denote the time of entering Conference. The letters indicate the present order or relation now sustained in Conference—as P. probationer, D. deacon, E. elder, S'y, supernumerary, St. superannuate. The figures in the left column denote whether appointed the first or second year to his present field of labor. It will be seen that quite a number of entrances are given for 1841. All, or nearly all, those preachers were members of the New England Conference prior to that year. By an act of the General Conference of 1840, the Providence Conference was organized in 1841; its first session commencing on the 9th day of June of that year, in the city after which it is named. Hence the reason of so many entrances under that date. All subsequent entrances are dated with the time of being received on probation, or by transfer. Re-admission of such as have located is given with the time of re-admission.

We think it probable that some errors may be discovered. If so, we shall be happy to have brethren point them out, that they may be corrected in our next minutes.]

1857.	Allen, A. M	.P	. Marlboro' and Hebron, Conn1
1851.	Allen, J. C	.E	. West Duxbury, Mass2
1841.	Alderman, M. P	.E	. Centre ch., Provincetown, Mass2
1857.	Alexander, George S	.P	.Pembroke, Mass2
1842.			. Providence, R. I S'y.
1845.			. Wareham, MassS'y.
1851.			. East Bridgewater, Mass
1841.			.Taunton, MassS't.
1852.			. West Thompson, Conn1
			. Fourth st., New Bedford, Mass1

	D 1 . 37 . (1 1 . 1	372	Earl Warmanth	
1843.	Bemis, Nathaniel	E	East Weymouth	
1847.	Bentley, Lorenzo D	<u>E</u>	. W. Main st., Norwich, Conn2	
1841.	Poston Emoting	19.	Stofford Savings Conn	
1854.	Benton, Josiah T	D	Lebanon, Conn	
1841.	Benton Sanford	E	Cochesett Mass	
1841.	Bidwell Ire M	F	Norwich Conn S't	
1041.	Dicks Discussion	12	Manatia Dailan Comm	1.
1841.	Blake, Ebenezer	E	. Mystic bridge, Conn	one (goin
1848.	Blake, Theo. D	E	. West Sandwich, MassS't	2
1841.	Blood, Lorenzo W	E	. Danielsonville, Conn	
1851.	Bodfish, Asa N	E	. Chatham. Mass	2
1856.	Bosworth R K	P	Wesley Ch'l Provincetown	
1000.	D. J. J. F. D.	12	Woones alsot D I	
1841.	Drauford, E. D	E	. Woonsocket, K. I	
1842.	Brewster, G. W	. E.,	.E. Main st., Norwich, Conn	3
1854.	Brooks, Orlando N	D	. North Dighton, Mass	
1844.	Brown, S. C	E	. St. Paul's, Fall River, Mass 1	1
1846.	Burnham George	E	South and West Harwich Mass	1
1841.	Patler Temes D	E	Warran P I	
1041.	Butter, James D	E	Castle Day 11.	
1841.	Cady, Jonathan	E	South Providence, R. I	2
1842.	Cady, Lawton	.E	. Wareham, Mass	
1847.	Cady, William O	E	.Scotland, Conn	
1855.	Carpenter, George M.	E	. Chestnut st., Providence, R. I.	
1857.	Carroll I M	P	Fountain st Providence R I	
1842.	Canton Charles A	E	Loomington Mass	
1042.	Carter, Charles A	E	Leoninister, massS't	:
1841.	Case, John W	.E	. Lyme and E. Lyme	l .
1854.	Chapman, J. A. M	D	. Allen st., New Bedford, Mass	2
1847.	Chase, Moses	.E	. Stoughton, Mass	L
1856.	Colby, E. K	E	Wellfleet, Mass	2
1855.	Collier Ino N	D	Varmouth Port Mass	ī
1855.	Cooley I U	D	Orloans	1
1000.	Cooley, J. II	D	Mantagara Mana	<u> </u>
1841.	Coggesnan, S. W	.E	. Nantucket, Mass	
1843.	Cooper, John	E	. North Bridge water, Mass	1
1857.	Cooper, Varnum A	. P	. Pontiac Mills, R. I	1
1852.	Conant. H. W	E	. Warehouse Point, Conn	2 /
1851.	Crandon, Philip	. E	Hingham, Mass	1 . 4 . 11/1
1842.	Daggett Levi	E	Willimentia Conn Sta	-0, ell 12 pl
1841	Dana Francis	E	Forboro' Mass S't	· Loud JX
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1841. 1843.	Dane, Francis. Dean, Sidney.	E	Foxboro', Mass. S't. Thompson, Conn. S'y	* Louis X
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1849. 1844.	Lamborton S	E	. Thompsonville, Conn
1857.	Lathan Alancon	E	North Fairhaven, Mass1
1856.	Laffingwell Lyman	F	Haddom North Conn
1845.	Leonard William	15	Haddam Neck, Conn. 1 Holmes' Hole, Mass. 2 Contraville, R. I.
1844.	Livesey John	16	Centreville, R. I
1841.	Livesey William	E	East Greenwich R I
1841.	Livesey Richard	E.	East Greenwich, R. I
1841.	Loomis F. A	D.	South Truro, Mass2
1841.	Loveiov. John	E	Pawtucket R. I
1841.	Lyon, Edward A	E	Thames st., Newport, R. I.
1844.	Mather, James	E	Pawtucket, R. I
1851.	Mather, Peter S	E	Mensfield, Mass. 1 East Harwich, Mass. 1
1841.	Mayo, Henry	E	East Harwich, Mass1
1852.	McKeown, Andrew	Ю	Bristol, R. L
1855.			
1857.	Morrison, W. V	P	Millville, R. I
1850.	Morse, Charles	E	East Hartford, Conn1
1852.	Nason, Charles	E	First Church, Taunton, Mass1
1841.	Otheman, B	E	. Fairhaven, Mass1
1857.	rack, Japez	10	Greenville Conn
1841.	Paine, Nathan	E	New Bedford, MassS't.
1841.	Palmer, Anthony	E	Willimantic, Conn. (P. E.)1
1856.	Parsons, Robert	$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}$	Plainfield, Conn
1841.	Patten, David	<u>E</u>	New Bedford, Mass. S't. Willimantic, Conn. (P. E.). 1 Plainfield, Conn. 1 Concord, N. H. (Bib. Inst.). 3
1857.	Payne, Charles H	P	Sandwich, Mass
1841.	Perry, Herman	E	Monument, MassS't.
1855.	Phelbronk N D	E	Wapping, Conn
1851.	Pierro Torier	E	Sanoornton bridge, N. HSt.
1841. 1857.	Ouereau George W	E	Wapping, Conn. 1 Sanbornton Bridge, N. H. S't. Windsorville, Conn. 1 East Greenwich, R. I. (P. C. Sem'y.) West Thompson. S't. Phenix, R. I. 1 East Woodstock S't.
1841.	Ramedall H S	F	West Thompson S't
1841.	Richards William H	E F	Phonix R I
1841.	Robbins O	E	Fast Woodstock St
1846.	Rogers George W.	E	Hazardville Conn 1
1853.	Sanford, C. S	E	Uncasville Conn 2
1849.	Saver. B. L	E	Westport Point Mass2
1849.	Sheffield, Jno. F	Ē	Mystic, Conn
1856.	Sheldon, William E	P	Themis, N. The
1841.	Simmons, William S	E	Fisherville, Conn1
1841.	Smith, Henry H	E	North Rehoboth, Mass2
1855.	Stanley, E. S	E	East Glastenbury, Conn1
1842.	Stearns, George W	E	New Bedford, MassS't.
1852.	Stetson, William H	E	Addin Reinobuch, Mass. 2 East Glastenbury, Conn 1 New Bedford, Mass S't. Edgartown, Mass 1 New York. (Ed. Ch. Adv. and Jour.) 2 Mystic Bridge, Conn S't. Globe Village, Mass 1 Norman Ed. 1
1841.	Stevens, Abel	E	New York. (Ed. Ch. Adv. and Jour.) 2
1841.	Stoddard, Isaac	E	Mystic Bridge, ConnS't.
1841.	Swinerton, A. U	<u>E</u>	Globe Village, Mass1
1845.	Talbot, M. J.	E	Newport, R. I
1846.	Titus, Charles H	E	Taunton, Mass. P. E 3
1845.	Turkington, William	E	Willimantic, Conn
1842.	Townsend, Paul	E	Newport, R. I
1841.	Upham, Frederick	E	Cantus Change Tounten Mass
1856. 1842.	Wolkey Penjamin M	F	Centre Church, Taunton, Mass2 South Glastenbury, Conn1
	Walker, Denjalili M	E E	Remetable Mass
1841. 1846.	Weeks James R	E	Barnstable, Mass. 2 Little Compton, R. I. 2 North Bridgewater, Mass. S'y. Elm st., New Bedford, Mass. 2
1841.	Wheeler A R	E	North Bridgewater Mass S'v
1853.	White Henry S	E.	Elm st. New Bedford, Mass. 2
1843.	Winchester, George H	Ē	Monument, Mass
1854.	Willett, J. W.	D	Osterville, Mass
1849.	Wise, Daniel	E	New York. (Ed. S. S. Adv.)2
1845.	Wooding, George W	E	Rockville, Conn1
1848.	Worcester, James M	E	Monument, Mass. 1 Osterville, Mass. 1 New York. (Ed. S. S. Adv.). 2 Rockville, Conn. 1 Colchester, Conn. 1





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